

WAUKESHA COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 9, 2004

Members Present: Betty McMullen, Nancy Pagels, Janet Belton, Sandy Wolff, Duane Stamsta, Joanne Leifheit, Joe Griffin, Calvin Gander, Larry Wiedmann, Lyman Humphrey, Miriam Behselich

Excused: Louise Mross

Staff Present: Mary Smith, Cathy Bellovary

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am.

Introductions: There were no guests present.

Approval of Minutes: There were no changes to the Minutes from July 8 as presented. Calvin Gander moved to approve the minutes and Joe Griffin seconded the motion and all Commission members voted favorably to approve the minutes.

Nutrition Services Update: This department has been very busy. Delivery of frozen meals started in July in the Muskego area. Mary explained the rationale behind the decision making process and the plan for continued implementation of delivery of frozen meals with hot meals for other areas in the county. Reasons include the change in volunteer policies, lack of volunteers and budget limitations. The new Dietary intern will be sending a survey to people who receive frozen meals.

Waukesha County has been participating in Steps to Healthy Aging along with Washington, and Ozaukee Counties. The 12-week program focuses on improving nutrition and increasing physical activity. Many people are participating, including some Commission members.

Mary is also working with Mt. Mary College on a program for the dietician students. The focus is to increase their awareness of nutrition interventions and doing home visits. Betty McMullen suggested this would be a good idea for a newspaper article.

The department has 3 RFPs for the food vendor and is finalizing the decision process. Participation in both congregate meals and home delivered meals is growing and is projected to be higher at year-end than budgeted. There was discussion on how to handle this, including possible wait lists, changing guidelines for eligibility and asking the County for some contingency funds. The department is working diligently to make the wisest use of its resources and find creative solutions.

Newsletter Format: The Department's Newsletter is generally sent out 3 times a year. People find it interesting and informative. Due to budget constraints, the department is looking for ways to make it more cost effective. The Commission Members were asked to review the newsletter and make suggestions on priority areas to continue to be included. Additional ideas such as

soliciting businesses to cover the printing costs (sponsorship) were suggested along with working to identify appropriate effective locations to distribute the newsletters to for maximum coverage.

Chair's Report: There are a number of informative events being planned for seniors and caregivers. They include Catholic Charities' Lifelong Adult Wellness Conference on September 24, a Caregiver's Networking Fair on September 25, sponsored by the Milwaukee Aging Consortium and a number of informative seminars offered by a local funeral home.

Director's Report: Waukesha County continues to excel in the services it provides and other counties ask for information about how the services are provided.

Upcoming Dates of Interest include:

Sept. 17 CWAG 2B Conference at Waukesha Expo. (Waukesha County to Host)

Sept. 20 Governor's Conference in Madison from 9:30 –3pm.

Oct. 8 CWAG Fraud Conference Training for Volunteers from 9 to 3pm. This conference will train people to assist with Medicare bill processing and avoid fraud.

The Department has just received bookmarks that have a listing of all the County's Adult Daycare locations.

Mary Smith noted that visits to the departments website have tripled in the last year and there were over 1,400 hits in just the last month! The Senior Lifestyle Conference brochures were handed out and Commission Members are encouraged to distribute them.

SEWAAA Reports: There was a report from the Board meeting. Brad Peele was present at the meeting. He is Susan Duval's replacement. The Board discussed two bills of interest that are at the committee. They have to do with importance of prescriptions and the Elders Justice Act. SEWAAA's Conference will be on Nov. 3. SEWAAA is hoping to coordinate bus transportation to the Governor's Conference. There was also some discussion about the purpose of the Advisory committee. There was no report from the Advisory Council.

Senior Activities Report: Attendance at the Sussex Senior Center has increased. 67 people attended on the previous day. The center is seeking to add speakers to its' program to increase the educational component.

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Betty McMullen and seconded by Calvin Gander. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. Tours of Avalon Square followed.

Approved

Date

Recorded by Miriam Behselich